S.No.	Name of the State	1993	1997
10.	Rajasthan	475	474
11.	Tamil Nadu	138	110
12.	UP/Uttaranchal	711*	1412
13.	Bihar/Jharkhand	203	260
14.	Haryana	25	30
15.	Himachal Pradesh	821	972
16.	West Bengal	108	166
	TOTAL	6451	7787
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	98	**
18.	Assam	246	**
19.	Tripura	18	**
20.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	15	NR
	TOTAL	6828	

N.R.—Not reported by States

*Estimation was not conducted in the high mountain regions of the State

**Estimation was not conducted in North-eastern State

Fine on the Ministry of Environment and Forests

1360. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has been fined twice by the Supreme Court of India recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, together with the reasons for imposition of fines by Supreme Court; and

(c) the reasons for not taking timely and properly action by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) In Writ Petition No. 657/ 1995 as per the Supreme Court's orders, the Ministry was required to (i) submit a report on the waste oil consignments seized at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai,

(ii) conduct an inquiry regarding the disappearance of wastes from the port, and (iii) file an affidavit regarding action taken on the Action Plan contained in the report of the High Powered Committee (HPC). The Ministry has complied with the directions by way of filing an affidavit on 26.09.2001 based on the report of analysis of oil samples collected from the seized containers at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai, carried out by the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun and setting up an Inquiry Committee on 31.01.2002 to probe into the disappearance of wastes from the ports. A detailed supplementary affidavit was filed on 06.12.2001 incorporating the responses of various States in respect of the recommendations of the HPC. Based on the above facts, an application has been filed in the Supreme Court Seeking condonation of the fine of Rs. 10000 imposed vide Supreme Court's order dated 04.02.2002.

The Supreme Court, as per their orders dated 18.02.2002 in Interlocutory Application No. 566 in Writ Petition No. 202/ 95, imposed a cost of Rs. 5000 on the Ministry for non-submission of affidavit, as directed in their orders on 23.11.2001. The court directed this Ministry to formulate a scheme, whereby, whenever forest land is permitted for non-forestry use, the responsibility of raising compensatory afforestation should be on the user agency. The Supreme Court had earlier passed similar directions in Interlocutory Application No. 574 on 08.09.2000. In compliance to the directions of 08.09.2000, this Ministry had submitted a detailed scheme in its affidavit of 03.01.2001 elucidating various options for carrying out compensatory afforestation. However, the attention of the Supreme Court could not be drawn to the fact that the Ministry has already filed the scheme, as directed by the Court in reference to Interlocutory Application No. 566, vide Ministry's affidavit on 03.01.2001.

In view of the above facts, the Ministry has taken up the issue with the Solicitor General of India to request the Supreme Court to consider the affidavit already filed on 03.01.2001 and also reconsider their direction regarding cost imposed.

Forest development agencies in Kerala

1361. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has initiated action to constitute Forest Development Agencies at Division Level, in view of the stipulations under "Joint Forest Management'; and